

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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FOR EUR/CE

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: CVIS, PINS, SHUM, CSCE, GE, US
SUBJECT: CSCE IMPLEMENTATION: PRESENTATION OF FAMILY
REUNIFICATION NON-PAPER.

REF: (A) BERLIN 3176 (B) BERLIN 3103

1. ON MAY 9 CONOFFS PRESENTED FAMILY REUNIFICATION
NON-PAPER TO MFA CONSULAR DEPT. (HERR GRAHLE).
NON-PAPER CONTAINED THE SEVEN FAMILY REUNIFICATION AND
FOUR BINATIONAL MARRIAGE CASES LISTED REFTEL. MOOD WAS
FRIENDLY AND INFORMAL. ACTUAL PRESENTATION OF LIST WAS
PRECEDED BY RATHER LENGTHY DISCUSSION OF THE BEAUTIFUL
SPRING WEATHER AND THE JOYS OF GARDENING.

2. HERR GRAHLE ACCEPTED LIST AND REVIEWED IT CAREFULLY
WHILE CONOFFS EXPLAINED THAT, EXCEPT FOR "A FEW NON-
PROBLEM IMMIGRANT VISA CASES", THIS WAS A COMPREHENSIVE
LISTING OF ALL REPRESENTABLE CASES KNOWN TO US. WHEN
GRAHLE APPEARED TO BE SOMEWHAT SURPRISED BY THE SMALL
NUMBER, CONOFFS POINTED OUT THAT CLEARING UP ELEVEN CASES
WOULD ENABLE THE GDR TO HAVE A "CLEAN SLATE" IN THIS AREA
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AND MEASURABLY REINFORCE THE GOOD ATMOSPHERE OF OUR
BILATERAL RELATIONS. IT WAS FURTHER NOTED THAT THIS WAS
A PARTICULARLY OPPORTUNE TIME FOR SUCH REINFORCEMENT IN
THE LIGHT OF IMPENDING HIGH-LEVEL GDR VISITS TO THE
UNITED STATES AND INCREASED ACTIVITY IN OUR CULTURAL
RELATIONS.

3. CONOFF MENTIONED THAT HE HAD BEEN TOLD BY COLLEAGUES FROM WARSAW PACT POSTS AT RECENT U.S. CONSULAR OFFICER'S CONFERENCE IN PARIS THAT THEY ALL RECEIVED ANSWERS FROM THE RESPECTIVE MFAS TO THEIR FAMILY REUNIFICATION REPRESENTATIONS. CONOFF ASKED GRAHLE IF THIS COULD ALSO BE DONE HERE. A DISCUSSION FOLLOWED ON THE DIFFICULTY OF PROVIDING SUCH INFORMATION, BUT THE QUESTION WAS NOT ANSWERED.

4. COMMENT: GRAHLE, WHILE COURTEOUS AND FRIENDLY AS USUAL, WAS ESPECIALLY CAUTIOUS AND UNINFORMATIVE IN HIS REPLIES. HE APPEARED TO BE UNDER SOME KIND OF CONSTRAINT, AND SEVERAL TIMES STARTED TO REPLY OR RESPOND TO A QUESTION OR OBSERVATION, THEN STOPPED AND SAID AGAIN "I ACCEPT THE LIST". HE DID SAY THAT HE WAS "OPTOMISTIC" BY NATURE, AGREED THAT OPPORTUNITIES FOR IMPROVING OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS EXISTED, AND THAT THE OPEN EXCHANGE OF VIEWS WHICH WE WERE HAVING ALSO "CONTRIBUTED TO IMPROVED RELATIONS". IT IS SIMPLY NOT POSSIBLE TO SPECULATE ON THE BASIS OF THIS MEETING ABOUT CURRENT GDR ATTITUDES TOWARDS RESOLUTION OF OUTSTANDING HUMANITARIAN CASES. BOLEN

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